



Docket No.: M4065.0227/P227-A
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Tongbi Jiang, et al.

Application No.: 09/998,165

Confirmation No.: 7636

Filed: December 3, 2001

Art Unit: 2829

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
REDUCING SUBSTRATE BIAS VOLTAGE
DROP

Examiner: Evan T. Pert

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Election of Species Requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed October 27, 2003, Applicant hereby provisionally elects claims within the group defined in the Office Action as "A1B1." According to the definitions provided, this provisional election elects claims which are described in the Office Action as belonging to the species of claims "metallic layer attached/secured to backside ("embodiment 1")" and "backside is connected to a 'bias voltage source' such as -1 V or 0 V (wherein "0 V" equals "ground" or "gnd").

Claim 31-65 are pending in the application. The Office Action indicates that claim 31 is a generic. The provisionally elected species of claim 31 includes claims 32-42 and 62-65.

This election is made with traverse. Applicant respectfully submits that, given the circumstances of this case in which there is a reasonable number of independent claims,

it would not be a serious burden to examine all of the claims pending at this time.

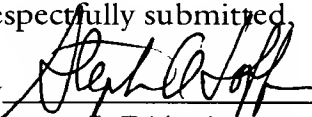
M.P.E.P. § 803 directs as follows: "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits." This directive should be followed in this case.

Applicant respectfully traverses the election of species requirement on the grounds that Examiner has not set forth any reasons why claims 43-61 represent a species distinct from claims 32-42 and 62-65. MPEP § 816.

Applicant's election is made without prejudice. As noted in the Office Action, upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to all species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141.

The application is believed to be in immediate form for allowance. Therefore, an action on the merits of all the claims and a Notice of Allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Dated: 26 NOV 2003

Respectfully submitted,
By  Reg. No. 37,063
Thomas J. D'Amico
Registration No.: 28,371
Michael Bergman
Registration No.: 42,318
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &
OSHINSKY LLP
2101 L Street NW
Washington, DC 20037-1526
(202) 785-9700
Attorney for Applicant

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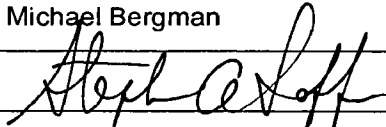
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/998,165-Conf. #7636
	Filing Date	December 3, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Tongbi Jiang
	Art Unit	2829
	Examiner Name	Evan T. Pert
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	M4065.0227/P227A

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Response to Election of Species Requirement.
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP Thomas J. D'Amico Registration No.: 28,371 Michael Bergman Registration No.: 42,318
Signature	 Reg. No. 31,063
Date	26 NOV 2003